

The spread of democracy has reduced tensions. High-speed communications make it harder for dictators to maintain the regimented societies that start wars against their neighbors.

Kennedy took a risk in 1963 when he limited the ability of the United States to test nuclear weapons at the height of the Cold War. The result was one of his greatest accomplishments. It demonstrated that good-faith negotiations could make the world safer and more secure. A treaty can't convert an evil heart into a good one. But it can reduce misunderstandings that sometimes lead to war.

Kennedy's treaty also laid a foundation of understanding on which further agreements could be negotiated. In 1974, the nuclear powers outlawed the testing of the largest nuclear weapons. In the 1980s, the inventory of U.S. and Soviet warheads and delivery systems was cut back in a series of arms-reduction pacts. In the 1990s, the drawdown of warheads continued and the nuclear non-proliferation pact was extended.

Yes, the practically of eliminating nuclear weapons may continue to be debated. But it shouldn't be abandoned as a goal. Dramatic progress has been made in the past three decades toward making the world less warlike. More progress can reasonably be assumed, even if it occasionally means taking a calculated risk.

#### TRIBUTE TO SENATOR SAM NUNN

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, over the course of the more than 40 years I have spent in the U.S. Senate, I have had the good fortune to serve with a number of people who have gone from being my colleagues to being my friends. Today, I rise to pay tribute to one such individual, SAM NUNN, who I am sad to note is ending his career in this body at the conclusion of the 104th Congress.

It is perhaps only natural that SAM would come to be one of my closest friends in the Senate, as we have much in common. To begin with, we represent neighboring States, and almost immediately after SAM arrived in the Senate, we began working together on a number of issues that were, and are, of concern and importance to our constituents. From 1972 to almost literally this day, SAM and I have cooperated on any number of matters, such as the Savannah River Site or Fort Gordon, that affect both our States. It would probably be safe to say that for many residents of South Carolina, SAM NUNN is like a third Senator to them. Additionally, I served with his great-uncle Carl Vinson, as well as with SAM's predecessor, Richard Russell, both of whom were true legends of the U.S. Senate, as well as great Georgians. Finally, we are both veterans, SAM served ably in the U.S. Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve, where he helped to protect our shores and maritime interests and undoubtedly learned the importance of a modern, well trained, and well equipped military.

Without question, I think the bond between SAM and I grew strongest during the years we spent together on the Senate Armed Services Committee, where we worked together to provide

for the defense of the Nation. In the 24 years he served on that Committee, SAM went from a freshman member to one of the Nation's most knowledgeable and respected experts on defense matters. In the process, he became the Committee's Chairman and Ranking Member, and played an important and influential role in the shaping of American defense policy during the cold War, and post-cold war eras. I have known no small number of committee chairmen in my time, and I certainly rank SAM NUNN as one of the most able and dedicated men to hold a position of such importance and responsibility.

Mr. President, SAM NUNN is known by the media, the public, and by his colleagues in Congress as a serious-minded individual, who approaches matters before him critically and carefully. Undoubtedly, his training as a lawyer and his service as a member of the Georgia House of Representatives, helped prepare him for his duties in the U.S. Senate. During his time in this Body, SAM NUNN has represented the people of his State thoroughly and effectively, and he helped to turn the American military into the finest fighting force that history has known. I know that come January, I will miss SAM both as a colleague and friend, but I also know that I am glad he has spent the last 24 years in the Senate, and I am certain that he will continue to work to influence public policy and to ensure that the United States remains the strongest Nation in the world.

#### TRIBUTE TO SENATOR BILL BRADLEY

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, perhaps one of the greatest characteristics of our form of government is that it encourages literally anybody and everybody to seek elected office. As a result, we have avoided the creation of an elite ruling class, and the men and women who represent us in public office are individuals of diverse, interesting, and unique backgrounds. Just look to the 100 members of this Body and you will find a richly varied collection of experience and professions among our colleagues, and Senator BILL BRADLEY has perhaps the most unique background of our colleagues.

Though not a native son of the Garden State, BILL BRADLEY has been a part of New Jersey and the Northeast since his days as a history student at Princeton University. Clearly his time on that campus helped to influence how he would spend his years as an adult. A star member of the Tigers basketball team, BILL would serve as the Captain of the 1964 Olympic basketball team and eventually go on to play professional basketball for the New York Knicks for 10 years. BILL's excellence was not limited to under the baskets, his performance as a student earned him a coveted Rhodes Scholarship to the prestigious Oxford University where he received a master's degree.

For the past 18 years, BILL BRADLEY has ably represented the people of New

Jersey in this Body. During his career as a Senator, BILL has brought many of the traits he learned on the basketball courts, and in the halls of two of the world's greatest learning institutions, to this Chamber. Without question, he is a careful student of the issues that come before the Senate, and he is always a thoughtful contributor to our debates. In particular, he is a forceful and passionate advocate for matters that are particularly close to his heart, which include economic development, the environment, education, fighting crime, and promoting racial harmony and equality.

Mr. President, despite his popularity, Senator BRADLEY has decided not to seek a fourth term in the U.S. Senate. While we will miss his participation in the National debate, I am certain that he will continue to seek ways in which to serve New Jersey and the United States. I join my friends and colleagues in wishing him well in whatever he chooses to pursue.

#### TRIBUTE TO SENATOR CLAIBORNE PELL

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, there are certain men and women who serve in the U.S. Senate who by their accomplishments or dedication to their constituents, have become stalwarts of this institution. Senator CLAIBORNE PELL of Rhode Island is one such man.

For the past 36 years, CLAIBORNE PELL has served capably and selflessly in this body, working hard to represent the interests and concerns of his constituents. In the process, he has championed a number of issues and measures that have become a regular and important part of life in America for many of our citizens. Among the accomplishments our colleague is most proud of are the establishment of PELL Grants, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Perhaps more than anything else, though, Senator PELL will be remembered for his commitment to the Foreign Relations Committee.

Given CLAIBORNE'S rich background in international affairs, it is not surprising that he should end up as one of this Body's and Nation's leading experts on foreign policy. Following his service as an officer in the Coast Guard during World War II, CLAIBORNE became a member of the Foreign Service, representing American interests in Czechoslovakia and Italy. Undoubtedly this extensive background was most beneficial to Senator PELL as he carried out his duties on the Committee on Foreign Relations, especially when he became its chairman.

A small State such as Rhode Island builds power and prestige through seniority, and during his almost four decades in the Senate CLAIBORNE PELL has worked tirelessly on behalf of his constituents. Without question, the "Ocean State" has benefitted greatly